

ELLA'S SONG

For SATB a cappella*

Duration: ca. 3:40

Words and Music by
BERNICE JOHNSON REAGON

With conviction and purpose (♩ = 112)

CALL

4/4

We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest,

Piano
(only for rehearsal)

We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest un-til it comes.

5

CALL 9

Sop. We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest,

Alto We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest,

Tenor We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest,

Bass We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest,

RESPONSE

9

We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest,

*Performance notes found on page 19.



We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest un-til it comes. — *Un-til —

We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest.

We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest.

We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest.

We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest.

We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest.

13

17

— the kill-ing of black men, black moth-er's sons, —

Doo — doo doo doo doo doo doo —

Doo — doo doo doo doo doo doo —

Doo — doo doo doo doo doo doo —

Doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo — doo doo doo

17

17

[illegible]

25

white moth - er's sons. That which touch - es me most

doo doo doo doo doo doo. Doo

doo doo doo doo doo doo. Doo

doo doo doo doo doo doo. Doo

doo doo doo doo doo doo. Doo

25

23

is that I had a chance to work with people

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

26

Passing on to others that which was passed on to me.

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

29

33

We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest,

We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not

We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not

We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not

We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not

We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not

32

33

We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest un-til it comes,

rest, We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not

rest, We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not

rest, We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not

rest, We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest,

36

To me — young peo-ple come first, they have the

rest. Doo — doo doo doo doo doo doo —

rest. Doo — doo doo doo doo doo doo —

rest. Doo — doo doo doo doo doo doo —

Doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo —

40

cour - age where we failed — And if I — can but shed some light —

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo — doo —

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo — doo —

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo — doo —

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo — doo doo doo

43

as — they — car - ry us through — the gale. — The old -

doo doo — doo doo doo — doo doo doo doo doo doo. —

doo doo — doo doo doo — doo doo doo doo doo doo. —

doo doo — doo doo doo — doo doo doo doo doo doo. —

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo. —

46

49

- er I get, the bet - ter I know — that the se - cret of my — go - ing on —

Doo — doo doo doo doo doo doo —

Doo — doo doo doo doo doo doo —

Doo — doo doo doo doo doo doo —

Doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo — doo doo doo

49

49

52

55

rest, We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not

free-dom can-not rest, We who be-lieve in

free-dom can-not rest, We who be-lieve in

8 free-dom can-not rest, We who be-lieve in

free-dom can-not rest, We who be-lieve in

59

rest un-til it comes. Not need-ing to clutch-for pow-

65

free-dom can-not rest. Doo

free-dom can-not rest. Doo

8 free-dom can-not rest. Doo

free-dom can-not rest. Doo doo doo doo

65

63

er, not need - ing the light just to shine on me, — I need to

— doo doo doo doo doo doo — doo doo doo doo doo doo —

— doo doo doo doo doo doo — doo doo doo doo doo doo —

8 — doo doo doo doo doo doo — doo doo doo doo doo doo —

doo doo doo doo doo doo — doo doo doo doo doo doo —

66

be one in the num - ber — as — we — stand a - gainst — ty - ran - ny. —

— doo — doo doo — doo doo doo — doo doo doo doo doo doo. —

— doo — doo doo — doo doo doo — doo doo doo doo doo doo. —

8 — doo — doo doo — doo doo doo — doo doo doo doo doo doo. —

— doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo. —

69

73

Strug-gling my-self don't mean a whole lot, I've

Doo doo doo doo doo doo

Doo doo doo doo doo doo

Doo doo doo doo doo doo

Doo doo doo doo doo doo

Doo doo doo doo doo doo

73

[illegible]

stand up and fight is the on - ly way our strug - gle sur - vives,

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo.

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo.

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo.

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo.

78

81

We who be - lieve in free - dom can - not rest,

We who be - lieve in free - dom can - not rest,

We who be - lieve in free - dom can - not rest,

We who be - lieve in free - dom can - not rest,

We who be - lieve in free - dom can - not rest,

81

81

We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest un-til it comes. I'm a

We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest.

We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest.

We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest.

We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest.

We who be-lieve in free-dom can-not rest.

85

89

wo-man who speaks in a voice, and I must-be heard; -

Doo doo doo doo doo doo

Doo doo doo doo doo doo

Doo doo doo doo doo doo

Doo doo doo doo doo doo

Doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

89

89

Some - times I can be quite dif - fi - cult, I'll

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

92

bow to no man's word, uh. We who be-lieve in

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

95

free - dom — can - not rest,

We who — be - lieve in free - dom — can - not rest,

We who — be - lieve in free - dom — can - not rest,

We who be - lieve in free - dom can - not rest,

We who be - lieve — in — free - dom can - not — rest,

98

freely, molto rit.

We who be - lieve in free - dom can - not rest un - til it — comes. —

freely, molto rit.

We who be - lieve in free - dom can - not rest.

freely, molto rit.

We who be - lieve in free - dom can - not rest.

freely, molto rit.

We who be - lieve in free - dom can - not rest.

freely, molto rit.

We who be - lieve in free - dom can - not rest. —

freely, molto rit.

101